

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No  
PCT/EP2004/052972

**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**  
IPC 7 G01B7/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

**B. FIELDS SEARCHED**

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)  
IPC 7 G01B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, PAJ, WPI Data

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	JP 2002 181502 A (TOKYO SEIMITSU CO LTD) 26 June 2002 (2002-06-26)	1,2,14
A	paragraphs '0010! - '0016!; figures 1-6	3-13
A	IT 1 179 306 B (FINIKE ITALIANA MARPOSS SPA) 16 September 1987 (1987-09-16) cited in the application the whole document	1-14
A	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 011, no. 335 (P-632), 4 November 1987 (1987-11-04) -& JP 62 119402 A (TOKYO SEIMITSU CO LTD), 30 May 1987 (1987-05-30) abstract; figures 1-4	1-14
	-/--	

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

\* Special categories of cited documents :

- \*A\* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- \*E\* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- \*L\* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- \*O\* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- \*P\* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- \*T\* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- \*X\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- \*Y\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
- \*&\* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

1 March 2005

Date of mailing of the international search report

11/03/2005

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2  
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk  
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,  
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Beyfuß, M

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No  
PCT/EP2004/052972

## C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 2003/159302 A1 (DALL'AGLIO CARLO ET AL) 28 August 2003 (2003-08-28) the whole document	1-14
P,X	WO 2004/011874 A (TOKYO SEIMITSU CO., LTD; KANAI, TAKAAKI; SAKAUE, TOMONORI) 5 February 2004 (2004-02-05) abstract; figures 1-7	1,2,14
P,X	-& PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 2003, no. 12, 5 December 2003 (2003-12-05) & JP 2004 109110 A (TOKYO SEIMITSU CO LTD), 8 April 2004 (2004-04-08) abstract; figures 1-7	1,2,14

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No  
PCT/EP2004/052972

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
JP 2002181502	A	26-06-2002	NONE	
IT 1179306	B	16-09-1987	JP 60214203 A	26-10-1985
JP 62119402	A	30-05-1987	JP 1920398 C	07-04-1995
			JP 6048161 B	22-06-1994
US 2003159302	A1	28-08-2003	IT B0980157 A1	13-09-1999
			AT 244394 T	15-07-2003
			AT 211813 T	15-01-2002
			AU 2932099 A	11-10-1999
			AU 3031399 A	11-10-1999
			CN 1292082 A	18-04-2001
			DE 69900785 D1	28-02-2002
			DE 69900785 T2	14-08-2002
			DE 69909262 D1	07-08-2003
			DE 69909262 T2	27-05-2004
			WO 9947883 A2	23-09-1999
			WO 9947884 A1	23-09-1999
			EP 1336816 A2	20-08-2003
			EP 1062476 A2	27-12-2000
			EP 1062477 A1	27-12-2000
			ES 2203087 T3	01-04-2004
			ES 2169948 T3	16-07-2002
			JP 2002506985 T	05-03-2002
			JP 2002506986 T	05-03-2002
			US 6487896 B1	03-12-2002
			US 6546642 B1	15-04-2003
WO 2004011874	A	05-02-2004	JP 2004109110 A	08-04-2004
			WO 2004011874 A1	05-02-2004
JP 2004109110	A	08-04-2004	WO 2004011874 A1	05-02-2004